

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR COMPRESSING RABIN SIGNATURES**

**ABSTRACT**

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A method and apparatus are disclosed for compressing Rabin signatures. The disclosed compression scheme compresses a Rabin signature,  $s$ , for a user having a public key,  $n$ , based on a continued fraction expansion of  $s/n$ . The continued fraction expansion of  $s/n$  can be performed by (i) computing principal convergents,  $u_i/v_i$ , for  $i$  equal to 1 to  $k$ , of a continued fraction expansion of  $s/n$ , where  $k$  is a largest integer for  
10 which principal convergents are defined; establishing an index  $l$ , such that  $v_l < \sqrt{n} \leq v_{l+1}$ ; and generating a compressed Rabin signature  $(v_l, m)$  for a message,  $m$ .

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